

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 ICA-11 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 DOTE-00 H-01 PA-01 NSC-05 /147 W
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R 060907Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7958
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD, EWWT, ID
SUBJECT: RE-EVALUATION OF USG PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH UNCTAD INTER-

GOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY GROUP (IPG) ON INTERNATIONAL MULTI-
MODAL TRANSPORT

REF: STATE 075993

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH SEA COMMUNICATIONS' HEAD
OF PLANNING, RUSTANDI, WHO WAS MEMBER OF GOI DELEGATION TO
ALL BUT SECOND IPG SESSION. HE EXPLAINED THAT HIS MINISTRY
FAVORED THE CONCEPT OF DOOR TO DOOR TRANSPORT. HOWEVER,
BECAUSE INFRASTRUCTURE (CHIEFLY ROADS) IS INADEQUATE, IT
WILL BE YEARS BEFORE THE CONCEPT CAN BECOME REALITY IN
THIS COUNTRY. INDONESIA HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE IPG SESSIONS
TO DATE PRIMARILY AS A LEARNING EXERCISE. IT HAS NO PARTICULAR
OBJECTIVES OTHER THAN KEEPING ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS.

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2. RUSTANDI SUGGESTED THAT MOST G77 MEMBERS WERE IN A
SITUATION SIMILAR TO INDONESIA'S AND VOICED DOUBTS THAT
MANY OF THEM WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING THE
CONVENTION SPEEDILY. WHEN ASKED SPECIFICALLY HOW LONG
NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT LAST, HE FORESAW THAT THEY COULD GO
ON "AT LEAST ANOTHER FIVE YEARS". WITH REGARD TO THE

ISSUE OF PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE LAW, HE POINTED OUT THAT SINCE GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNICATIONS WAS PREEMINENT OR NEARLY SO, IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL FOR THE G77 TO SEEK A CONVENTION IN WHICH GOVERNMENT'S ROLE WOULD BE MAXIMIZED.

3. RUSTANDI DID NOT WISH TO COMMENT ON THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF A U.S. WITHDRAWAL. WHEN PRESSED, HE MERELY SMILED AND SAID THAT THE MT CONVENTION WAS NOT AT ALL A TOP PRIORITY MATTER FOR THE GOI. NOR DID HE DISAGREE WHEN EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT MAKE A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE TO THE INDONESIANS IF THE U.S. WERE TO WITHDRAW.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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